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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
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9 Houston Specialty Insurance Company,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 Leah Rekowski, et al.,

13 Defendants.  
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No. CV-23-01187-PHX-DLR

**ORDER**

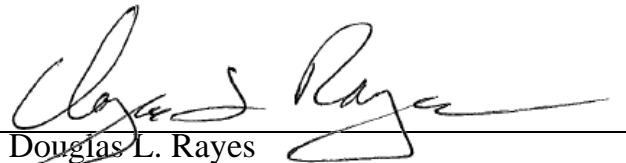
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16 On September 29, 2023, Fire Chief Steven W. Kerber filed an answer on behalf of  
17 Regional Fire & Rescue Department Incorporated. (Doc. 54.) “[I]t has been the law for  
18 the better part of two centuries . . . that a corporation may appear in the federal courts only  
19 through licensed counsel.” *Rowland v. Calif. Men’s Colony*, 506 U.S. 194, 201-02 (1993);  
20 *see also Multi-Denominational Ministry of Cannabis and Rastafari, Inc. v. Holder*, 365 F.  
21 App’x 817, 819 (9th Cir. 2010) (“[T]he law is clear that incorporated entities must be  
22 represented by counsel in court”); *Larsen v. Lauriel Inv. Inc.*, 161 F.Supp.2d 1029, 1034  
23 n.1 (D. Ariz. 2001) (noting that *pro se* defendant “may not represent . . . a corporate  
24 defendant”). There is no indication that Fire Chief Kerber is a licensed attorney.  
25 Accordingly, he cannot appear and file an answer in federal court on behalf of Regional  
26 Fire & Rescue Department Incorporated. If Regional Fire & Rescue Department  
27 Incorporated wishes to participate in this action, it must do so through a licensed attorney.

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1           **IT THEREFORE IS ORDERED** that the Clerk shall strike Regional Fire &  
2 Rescue Department Incorporated's answer.

3           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Regional Fire & Rescue Department  
4 Incorporated shall have **14 days** to obtain counsel and file an answer through counsel.

5           Dated this 3rd day of October, 2023.

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11           Douglas L. Rayes  
12           United States District Judge  
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